

simply got further in the church, if you will permit me to use that expression. You will know my meaning. But I saw God's hand in it all then. I see it more than ever now, and see it more and more as the days go by. It was very unpleasant to Joseph according to nature to be torn away from his brethren, but God over-ruled it all not only for Joseph's good, but it also proved to be the salvation of the whole family. Joseph was in Egypt but God was with him. His great anti-type had to be carried into Egypt for a season. But Joseph and his brethren were by and by most gloriously reunited. Let us hope and pray and labor that the day may not be far distant when we may find its spiritual correlative in the reuniting of the "Brethren" family, when there will be no line fences separating "Old Orders," "Conservatives," and "Progressives." When we all have that same love that "thinketh no evil" and that "beareth all things," we can soon embrace each other with tears of joy even in "Egypt"—we will not fuss about it and say, "We can't unite till we get into Canaan," but we will unite because we have learned that we have the same Father and therefore we are all "Brethren." Our ambition to maintain "churchism" would then be swallowed up in a burning desire to have the sweet fellowship with the lowly and meek Nazarene who even refused to turn away from Judas in that awful hour of betrayal, calling him "friend," (Matt. 26:50) a term that implies as much as "brethren,"—John 15:14—and who was willing to stoop and wash his feet and to eat out of the same dish at the sacramental board.

W. M. LYON.

315 9th St., S. E.

How God Cured an Infidel

American Messenger.

One Sunday morning, as Rev Austin L. Park, of Gardiner, Maine, was getting ready for church, a stalwart looking man, who had before been pointed out to him as the most determined and influential infidel of the town, was waiting at the door of the parsonage. He abruptly said: "Mr. Park, my wife wants you to come over to our house and pray for our little girl. She is very sick, perhaps dying. Of course, you understand that it is my wife's concern, not mine. I do not believe in such things. But to pacify her I came over."

Mr. Park replied, "I will go right over." And, abridging his Sunday morning preparations as much as possible, he did so. The little girl appeared to be far gone, from fever. The two physicians called in had given her up. Mr. Park offered prayer that she might recover, yet hardly dared to expect that anything more would come of it than comfort to the poor mother, hoping that she would thus be enabled to cast her care upon the Lord. After public services, Mr. Park went again to the bedside of the sick one. She was apparently unconscious and near death's door. The same state of

affairs continued for two or three days, when finally the father came to his house with the startling announcement, "Mr. Park, I've got all over my infidelity."

"Got over your infidelity!" exclaimed the minister. "What do you mean? How did that happen?"

"After you went away, on that Sunday morning, I went into the sick room, saying to myself, 'there is not any God, and there is not any such thing as prayer. But, I can not let her go. I can not live without her,' and so I said, 'Wife, I'll go and try to pray,' and so I went, saying over and over again, 'O, God, save my child!' For three days I did this same thing. The first and the second time she was no better. Each time I came back, saying to myself, 'There is no God; this is all nonsense.' The third day I knew in my heart that there was a God and that he was going to raise up my darling. I told my wife so. And the little one recovered."

"Now, Mr. Park," he added, "I have been a long time an infidel. I may relapse into my old state. I want you to give me some book to read on the evidences of Christianity."

Mr. Park loaned him a short discussion of the subject. He read it and re-read it, and as he said, it seemed to him the most conclusive and remarkable book he ever examined. A few days later, he said to Mr. Park, "How much do these books cost? I want you to send for a dozen of them. I want to distribute them among my infidel friends. They knock all infidel arguments endwise." This was done. The books were sent for; and Mr. Park says the last time he ever saw him was at a meeting down in Maine, with a Bible under his arm, laboring with sinners to bring them to make the great decision.

As to the conversion of this man, Rev. Mr. Park felt that it was thru the man's prayers for his child that he was brought to believe in a God; that it was his necessity which was God's opportunity. When he found the little girl slipping away from his arms he called upon God, and God revealed himself. The day of trouble is often the day when God says, "Behold I stand at the door and knock!"

Abide in Thee, in that deep love of Thine,
My Jesus, Lord, thou Lamb of God divine;
Down, closely down, as living branch with tree,
I would abide my Lord, my Christ, in Thee.

—J. D. Smith.

Among the Churches

Ashland, Ohio

Upon the invitation of brother E. D. Burnworth I made a brief visit to the brethren of Mt. Zion church in Hocking county.

Ten years ago I last visited this church. Many changes are noted. Some of those whom I then knew so well have passed away. But I was happy to renew old acquaintances. I preached to good and attentive audiences both morning and evening

of July 7. I also enjoyed the Sunday-school session. They have an interesting school.

Of course I also talked College to the people both from the pulpit and privately. I am hopeful that we shall ere long have some of the young people from this church in school at Ashland.

I also stopped for a short visit with the brethren at Glenford. Among these people I tried to do my first ministerial work covering a period of four and a half years. It is always a source of great pleasure to meet with them. This congregation is now under the care of brother E. D. Burnworth. He is meeting faithfully the responsibility of a pastor and his work is proving successful. This congregation has two appointments and is stronger than at any previous time. Brother Burnworth has added a number to the church, and I believe the outlook is good.

On Wednesday, the 10. Brother Burnworth preached the funeral discourse of sister Sarah Mack. Sister Mack lived in the home of Brother Deffenbaugh, being a sister of Mrs. Deffenbaugh. She was a good woman. A true Christian, faithful and loyal to her Master, kind and helpful to all her friends. Many a kindness have I received at her hands. Her departure was peaceful and we know she is at rest.

Sunday evening, the 14, the usual union services of the churches of Ashland were held at the College Chapel. We had an excellent audience. I must make special mention of the music. It was very good. Nothing so helps the minister, and indeed everybody, as soul-inspiring song. Altogether we had a good meeting.

J. ALLEN MILLER.

Nappanee, Ind.

The church here is doing some good work. Our attendance is good. We are doing some improving of our property. We have about one hundred and twenty members, and the entire outlay for the year will be about one thousand dollars; all running expenses are promptly paid. I think this is one reason why this church is being blessed. Another reason is they seem to have confidence in their pastor. The third reason is they are very sociable. They are not afraid to speak to strangers making them feel like coming again. I am happy to serve them another year.

At Cerro Gordo, brother J. L. Bauman will assist me in a meeting during September. We have moved from the school house in the country to the Presbyterian church in town. This is truly a promising church. This people has grown dear to me as I have been with them often for eight years. I do not wish to boast but it is a pleasure to work with such people.

B. H. FLORA.

Our District Conference

Owing to the repairs of our church we are afraid August is too early, and while we desire to carry out the original intention, yet conditions will cause us to put the Conference in September.

Full particulars next week.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

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